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Summary of Stakeholders' submissions on Cyprus*

Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 12 stakeholders' submissions[1] to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Information provided by stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies[2]

2. The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV) called on Cyprus to consider ratifying the international human rights instruments not yet ratified, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW).[3]

3. JS2 recommended that Cyprus immediately ratify the International Labour Organization (ILO) Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).[4]

4. JS1 and JS3 recommended that Cyprus accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.[5]

5. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) recommended that Cyprus sign and ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.[6]

* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.

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B. National human rights framework[7]

6. [8] stated that with regard to the 2nd cycle UPR recommendations 114.16 – 114.20, regarding a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles, very limited action had been taken.[9]

7. The Council of Europe Committee of Ministers (CoE-CM) recommended that Cyprus enhance the political and financial support to the Ombudsman Office to enable it to fulfil its multiple functions effectively and in full independence.[9]

8. Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF International) noted that the 1960 Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus contained no specific provisions expressly protecting the right to participate in cultural life.[10]

9. The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance of the Council of Europe (ECRI) noted that the criminal law did not provide for aggravating circumstances in cases of homo-transphobic motivation and equal treatment legislation did not cover the ground of gender identity. It recommended that Cyprus include gender identity as a prohibited discrimination ground in its equal treatment legislation.[11]

10. ADF International recommended that Cyprus recognize and respect the right to conscientious objection of medical professionals in law and practice, especially with regard to life-ending medical procedures.[12]

11. [8] recommended that the Government strengthen the national machinery for women's rights with financial and human resources with expertise in gender equality and women's rights.[13]

C. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

1. Cross-cutting issues

Equality and non-discrimination[14]

12. The Council of Europe Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (CoE-ACFC) found that the continued fixation on classifying citizens into either Greek Cypriots or Turkish Cypriots in all spheres of life, even when not related to the exercise of political rights and when not strictly called for by the Constitution, contradicted the existing diversity in Cypriot society and, moreover, appeared to create practical difficulties. It feared that the continued division of society along ethnic lines may encourage ethno-centric sentiments that are not conducive to the formation of a cohesive society.[15]

13. [8] noted that racial stereotyping, discriminatory attitudes, hate speech and hate crimes were still strongly prevalent in all areas of public life. It recommended that Cyprus adopt a comprehensive strategy and plan to combat these issue, and ensure enforcement of legislation related to hate speech and hate crimes.[16]

14. [8] noted that racist statements in the public sphere continued to be a common phenomenon. Migrants, particularly Muslims, were frequently presented in the media in a negative light and associated with problems such as rising unemployment and criminality. It noted that there has also been a rise in racist violence against migrants. It also noted that concern had been expressed about racially motivated attacks against Turkish Cypriots.[17]

15. ECRI recommended that Cyprus define in law and prohibit racial profiling by the police, as well as provide further human rights training for them.[18]

16. ECRI recommended that gender identity be included as a prohibited discrimination ground in equal treatment legislation, and that Cyprus adopt an action plan to combat homophobia and transphobia in all areas of everyday life.[19]

17. ECRI recommended that a comprehensive strategy for the inclusion of Roma be developed in all areas of life, including measures aimed at eliminating discrimination and

prejudice, with goals and targets, success indicators and a monitoring and evaluation system.[20]

18. The CoE (CoE) noted that the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (CoE-Commissioner) invited Cyprus to invest more in the social cohesion and integration of migrants by enhancing, in particular, their access to education, employment, health services and political participation. He highlighted the importance, in this context, of effectively fighting and sanctioning hate speech and other forms of hate crime targeting migrants.[21]

19. JS1 stated that integration of migrants and persons under international protection remained a serious challenge due to the lack of a national integration policy, as well as limited and ineffective programmes to facilitate integration. It identified fast track Greek language training, vocational training, recognition of previous studies and qualifications, affordable housing, access to long-term residence, supporting family reunification, and facilitated naturalization as in need of further strengthening and development.[22]

20. ODVV called on Cyprus to adopt effective measures to combat any form of racism and discrimination discriminatory attitudes against migrants and minorities. It also called on Cyprus to invest more in social cohesion and integration of migrants by enhancing their access to education, employment, health services and political participation.[23]

2. Civil and political rights

Right to life, liberty and security of person[24]

21. The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT), following its 2017 periodic visit to Cyprus, stated that persons detained by the police, and particularly foreign nationals, still ran a risk of being physically and/or psychologically ill-treated, notably at the moment of apprehension, during questioning and in the context of removal operations. It recommended that proactive measures be taken to ensure that all methods of police investigation are lawful. It recommended that practical professional training be regularly provided and electronic recording of police interviews be introduced.[25]

22. CPT reiterated its call upon Cyprus to ensure that access to a lawyer is effectively guaranteed from the very outset of deprivation of liberty by the police, including during any police questioning, and recommended that the legal aid system be extended. It also recommended specific improvements as regards the right to notify a third party and the right of access to a doctor and concerning custody records.[26]

23. CPT called upon Cyprus to end the current practices of detaining persons in police custody for prolonged periods.[27]

24. CPT noted that overcrowding in Nicosia Central Prisons remained a persistent problem. It reiterated its call to reduce the number of remand prisoners and lengthy periods of pre-trial detention and to implement alternatives to custody. It noted that there were allegations of staff physically and verbally abusing prisoners, threatening them with reprisals for making complaints. It recommended that the dispensing and administering of medication only be undertaken by qualified doctors or nurses and that procedures to ensure medical confidentiality be developed. It furthermore noted the lack of recording of use of isolation.[28]

25. CPT called upon the Cypriot authorities to prioritise, without further delay, the building of a new Mental Health Centre, and noted that the material conditions at Athalassa Psychiatric Hospital (and particularly at the closed male wards) remained substantially below standard and required complete refurbishment. CPT also recommended that the use of restraint be explicitly regulated by law.[29]

26. CPT recommended that the Cypriot authorities put in place a clear and comprehensive legal framework governing involuntary placement and stay of residents in social care homes (including the imposition of restrictions amounting to de facto deprivation of liberty). It noted that social care home staff should benefit from regular professional training, and that social care homes should be regularly visited by bodies that

are independent of the Social Welfare Services. It also stated that residents should be informed of their right to lodge formal complaints, on a confidential basis, with clearly designated outside bodies.[30]

27. The CoE noted that the CoE-Commissioner had expressed his concern about the widespread use of lengthy detention for failed asylum seekers and other migrants and the practice of re-arresting and re-detaining them and had urged the Cypriot authorities to end the practice of detaining migrants, including asylum seekers, for whom there is no reasonable prospect of deportation.[31]

28. JS1 noted that there was a lack of consistency in the legal basis upon which asylum seekers and migrants were detained and that the majority of persons, including asylum seekers, were detained under provisions of the law that were excluded from access to legal aid and did not carry a maximum time limit of detention, leading to indefinite detention.[32]

29. JS1 stated that the termination of the fast track examination of asylum claims of detainees, as well as the lack of alternatives to detention had led to an increase in the number of detainees in the detention centre in Menoyia. This had led to the re-opening of a wing, as well as persons being detained in holding cells around the country, a practice which had ceased. It stated that based on international standards the holding cells were not appropriate for long term stays.[33]

30. JS1 recommended that Cyprus implement in practice, and give priority to, alternatives to detention and ensure that detention is used as a last resort, for the least time possible.[34]

Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law[35]

31. CPT stated that the investigations carried out by the Independent Authority for the Investigation of Allegations and Complaints against the Police were ineffective. It stated that improvements to the system of investigations into allegations of ill-treatment by police officers were urgently required.[36]

32. ECRI strongly recommended that the police are clearly instructed to record any racist motivation behind all offences involving violence as well as in relation to any ordinary offence and to investigate these elements thoroughly.[37]

Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life[38]

33. The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE/ODIHR) noted that it deployed an Election Assessment Mission to observe the presidential election on 28 January and 4 February 2018. It noted that the election was held in a competitive and pluralistic environment characterized by respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Certain aspects of the electoral process, such as campaign provisions, dispute resolution and the rights of observers, remained under-regulated. It recommended that consideration be given to conduct a comprehensive review of the electoral legal framework well in advance of the next elections to further harmonize, clarify and update respective laws.[39]

34. It noted that several aspects of campaign finance remained under-regulated, including limits on donations to candidates and the method for valuing in-kind donations. It recommended that consideration be given to amending the legal framework to further define campaign contributions, including in-kind, and the method of their valuation, setting reasonable limits on the amount, source and type of contribution. It stated that the oversight and monitoring functions regarding campaign finance should be clarified and the level of enforcement enhanced.[40]

Prohibition of all forms of slavery[41]

35. The CoE noted that the CoE-Commissioner had invited Cyprus to continue the supervision of private employment agencies, to improve the identification of trafficked people and to provide more adequate accommodation and social aid to these persons.[42]

36. JS2 mentioned that trafficking in women for the purpose of labour exploitation and particularly domestic work was an issue of major concern. It stated that migrant domestic workers mostly lived in the private households of their employers and that many reported physical, psychological and sexual abuse and exploitative work conditions. They were often overworked and underpaid, had their personal documents such as passports and travel documents confiscated, reported restrictions in freedom of movement, and had their pay withheld in order to pay off "debts" related to their recruitment and transportation.[43]

37. JS2 also stated that labour inspectors were not able to inspect the working conditions of domestic workers. It stated that private employment agencies, most often used by employers to employ domestic workers, were not regulated and were reportedly involved in trafficking networks.[44]

38. JS2 stated that front-line officers (entry points) should receive better training on trafficking in persons so they could be proactive in recognising and dealing appropriately with victims.[45]

Right to privacy and family life

39. ECRI recommended that Cyprus consider amending the Refugee Law to provide for the possibility of family reunification for those granted subsidiary protection, in order to enhance their integration.[46]

3. Economic, social and cultural rights

Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work[47]

40. The European Organisation of Military Organisations (EUROMIL) noted that no working time regulations applied to members of the Cypriot armed forces.[48]

41. JS1 noted that asylum-seekers can only work after a six-month waiting period from the lodging of their asylum application and only in certain unskilled jobs, mainly agriculture and farming, regardless of their academic qualifications or professional experience. It stated that this type of employment was typically at the lower end of the pay scale and often required constant separation from family members as it was usually in remote areas. It recommended that Cyprus reduce the period of prohibition of access to the labour market and expand the economic sectors where asylum-seekers are permitted to work.[49]

42. JS1 noted that while the national minimum wage was over €800 per month, asylum seekers were sent to jobs with pay as low as €200 per month. In cases where employers did not pay at all, there was no procedure to force compliance with basic labour practices.[50]

Right to social security[51]

43. ECRI noted that changes to the Refugee Reception Conditions Regulations established a general system of payment in kind to replace direct financial aid or welfare support for asylum seekers. It stated that as a result, all asylum seekers in need of state assistance, both newly arrived and those who have so far been living in private housing and in receipt of welfare support, with some exceptions for vulnerable persons, were required to live in the only reception centre in the country, located in the remote area of Kofinou.[52]

44. JS1 stated that asylum-seekers were excluded from the national guaranteed minimum income scheme and were instead provided with a special 'material reception assistance' by means of vouchers and a small cash allowance in cheques to be used for utilities and other expenses. The level of assistance provided was below the national risk-of-poverty threshold.[53]

45. JS1 stated that there were significant problems with the voucher system. The vouchers could be used only in a few designated small shops in each town, where a number of essential items were not available. Prices in these shops were apparently much higher than the larger supermarkets. Furthermore, asylum-seekers received their vouchers with significant delays, often only a few days before their expiry. Asylum-seekers also needed to make numerous visits to the welfare services office, often on foot, to receive their vouchers.

Every month there were a number of asylum seekers who did not receive vouchers at all. In such cases, there was no compensation even when the Social Welfare office was found to be at fault. There were particular societal sensitivities to shopping with vouchers that led to the stigmatization of asylum-seekers, subjecting them to further prejudice and discrimination.[54]

46. JS1 stated that the small cash allowance was given to asylum seekers in cheques, and that often asylum seekers could not open bank accounts. As a result, they could neither deposit nor cash these cheques. It stated that there was only one shop in Cyprus that would exchange the government cheques for cash. Asylum seekers from all over the country travelled to the shop every month to be able to cash their cheques. It stated that cheques could be delayed by 2-3 months and that some months they did not arrive at all.[55]

47. JS1 recommended that Cyprus increase the level of subsistence assistance for asylum-seekers, provide cash instead of vouchers, and remove the cap on the assistance provided to families to ensure a dignified standard of living.[56]

Right to an adequate standard of living[57]

48. The CoE mentioned that the CoE-Commissioner had called on Cyprus to improve the implementation of the Guaranteed Minimum Income scheme. He had stressed the need for a thorough human rights impact assessment of budgetary restrictions, making sure that these cuts do not adversely affect access to vital sectors of life, such as education, employment and health care. He had also called on Cyprus to take more effective measures to reverse the worrying increase in child poverty.[58]

49. ECRI stated that the policy of constructing prefabricated housing units for Roma in isolated areas promoted a practice of de facto segregation.[59]

50. The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (EU-FRA) noted that in 2016 Roma families residing in abandoned Turkish Cypriot houses in Limassol were served with eviction orders. It noted that the evictions were to a large extent averted through the combined efforts of the school attended by the Roma children, the Ombudsman and the Commissioner for Children's Rights.[60]

51. JS1 stated that the inadequacy of the rental allowance forced asylum-seekers, including families with young children, to find shelter in unsuitable premises, often without electricity and water and thereby exposing themselves to serious health risks. Irregularity of rent payments and delays led to evictions and a growing problem of homelessness. It recommended that Cyprus process applications for social assistance swiftly in order to prevent instances of destitution and homelessness, and ensure emergency accommodation to all asylum-seekers in need, who would otherwise be forced to live in substandard conditions or would be homeless.[61]

Right to health[62]

52. JS2 mentioned that HIV care and treatment in Cyprus was provided by only one facility, the Gregorios clinic in Larnaca, and noted that this was a barrier for access to HIV care and treatment.[63]

53. EU-FRA noted that a standard fee of €10 was charged to all those accessing emergency healthcare, including migrants in an irregular situation.[64]

54. JS1 mentioned that public health care was often inaccessible in practice to children of an irregular status, with the exception of emergency care. It noted that there was no access to health care for undocumented adults, including non-removable persons who had been in the country for many years.[65]

Right to education[66]

55. ECRI stated that school enrolment and attendance among Roma children was low, and drop-out rates, especially in the transition between primary and secondary school, were high. There were disproportionate numbers of Roma in certain schools. It recommended that steps be taken to ensure the compulsory school attendance of all Roma children.[67]

56. The CoE-CM recommended that Cyprus introduce more intercultural elements into the education system and ensure that teachers and school administrators are adequately trained to promote exchange and dialogue across ethnic and linguistic lines, including through the promotion of bilingualism and linguistic diversity.[58]

57. It recommended that Cyprus enhance the equality of Roma children in the education system, including by making suitable learning materials available and by promoting respect and openness towards diversity among all students.[69]

58. It also recommended that Cyprus provide adequate opportunities for teacher training, in particular regarding language learning methodologies and teaching methods in multilingual environments, and suitable education materials to minority language schools and enhance the opportunities of all students to learn the official languages of Cyprus.[70]

4. Rights of specific persons or groups

Women[71]

59. JS2 stated that lawyers, prosecutors and judges lacked the necessary training and knowledge on violence against women, the needs and rights of victims, and the legal framework on violence against women in Cyprus. Legal sanctions against perpetrators were inadequate, particularly in cases of rape, and did not reflect the seriousness of the crime. There was no data available on women's access to protection orders and other protection measures.[72]

60. JS2 stated that although free legal aid was available in Cyprus, the process for accessing this aid was time-consuming and not facilitated by the Government service. Women were often faced with court delays, as well as stereotypical attitudes by prosecutors and the judiciary. A high number of reported domestic violence cases never reached the court and were either suspended or dropped. It stated that penalties imposed on the perpetrators were minimal and non-deterrent.[73]

61. JS2 noted that specialized services for victims of all forms of violence against women were lacking. The burden for the provision of specialised support services to victims of violence as well as for securing the financial resources to ensure that such services were sustainable fell to non-governmental organisations and volunteer organisations.[74]

62. JS2 stated that front line professionals (police, social welfare services, and health services) often lacked the ability (human resources, lack of direction from senior government officials) to offer adequate support and protection due to lack of systematic specialised training.[75]

63. JS2 noted that women were underrepresented in decision-making positions in all sectors, including those in which employees are predominantly female (such as education and health). Women were also underrepresented on the boards of listed companies, management positions within public administration, and in trade unions representations of all sectors and levels.[76]

64. JS2 stated that the Government, as well as political parties, have failed to promote and implement positive action measures such as quotas, even on a temporary basis to accelerate de facto equality between women and men. It recommended that the Government consider introducing legislative measures for the introduction of positive action measures for the advancement of de facto gender equality in Cyprus.[77]

65. JS2 noted that as a consequence of gender segregation in subject choices in education, gender segregation was well entrenched in the Cypriot labour market.[78]

66. JS2 noted that measures to reconcile work and family life were insufficient and services for childcare and care of other dependents were costly and non-accessible.[79]

67. JS2 recommended that Cyprus ensure women's access to information about contraception and family planning as well as access to good quality contraception methods and family planning goods and services. It also recommended that Cyprus ensure reproductive health care services, goods and facilities that are available in adequate

numbers, accessible physically and economically, accessible without discrimination, and of good quality.[80]

Children[81]

68. JS2 noted that the National Strategy for the Children's Rights in Health (2017 – 2025) lacked specific indicators, an appropriate monitoring and evaluation system for its implementation, timelines and dedicated budgets.[82]

69. EU-FRA noted that the percentage of children at risk of poverty or social exclusion increased by around 4 percentage points between 2014 and 2015.[83]

Persons with disabilities[84]

70. ODVV called on Cyprus to ensure an adequate standard of living, including access to disability support schemes and allowances in law and in practice, for all non-nationals with disabilities residing in the country on an equal basis with Cypriot citizens.[85]

Minorities and indigenous peoples[86]

71. The CoE-CM recommended that Cyprus enhance the available support for the promotion of minority languages and identities as an integral part of modern Cypriot society rather than primarily as elements of cultural heritage and ensure that the views and concerns of all minority communities, including the Roma, are adequately established through dialogue and taken into account in all relevant decision making.[87]

72. CoE-CM also recommended that Cyprus increase the availability of public television and radio broadcasting featuring minority languages and cultures and raise the capacity of journalists and media professionals to ensure that the specific situation and concerns of minorities are adequately reflected.[88]

Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons[89]

73. The CoE mentioned that the CoE-Commissioner, whilst welcoming some positive developments, such as the increase of refugee status recognition rates and the end of the practice of detaining Syrian asylum seekers, had recommended remedying the long-standing problems of the asylum system, including lengthy procedures, limited access to legal aid and the risk of deportation before the final determination of asylum claims.[90]

74. JS1 noted that information on asylum procedures was extremely limited, often outdated or not available in languages that applicants comprehended. It recommended that Cyprus provide consistently up-to-date information on all aspects of the asylum procedure and ensure effective advice and counselling.[91]

75. JS1 noted that there was no free legal support or representation at first instance examination of asylum applications. Legal aid was offered by the state only at the judicial examination of the asylum application before the Administrative Court. However, the success rate of legal aid applications was extremely low. It also noted that there was a large backlog of unprocessed asylum applications at both first and second instance. It recommended that Cyprus ensure access to free legal assistance at first instance and effective access to legal aid and representation during the judicial examination, and ensure timely examination of asylum applications and all instances.[92]

76. The CoE mentioned that the CoE-Commissioner had called on Cyprus to improve the identification procedure of particularly vulnerable migrants, such as unaccompanied children, adopt a multidisciplinary approach to determining the age of migrants, ease family reunification rules and improve the reception system for asylum seekers with families and children.[93]

77. JS1 recommended that Cyprus create and implement an effective mechanism for the identification and assessment of vulnerable persons, define roles and content of special reception and procedural needs, and build up capacity among staff engaging with vulnerable person at all stages of the procedure.[94]

78. JS2 noted that migrant women often did not have access to services or lacked adequate specialised support due to cultural, economic and other barriers. It was essential to ensure that migrant women had access to information and culturally sensitive victim support services.[95]

79. JS1 noted that the only state reception center for asylum seekers was located in a remote area of the village of Kofinou, away from services and local amenities and with limited transport links. It stated that the increasingly deteriorating conditions at the centre had led to unusable and unsafe kitchens and bathrooms and an overflowing sewage system. It mentioned that primary applicants who were residents at Kofinou received a monthly allowance of €40 and €10 for each dependent. Residents were unable to meet basic needs, such as access to sanitary/hygiene materials, clothing (especially for school-age children), and school materials, without assistance of donations. The location, layout and infrastructure of Kofinou Reception Centre was not conducive to effectively protecting vulnerable persons with specific needs, placing residents at an increased risk of sexual and gender based violence. The limited social services and psychosocial counselling had impeded the transition of the residents to the community, including upon the grant of protection status.[96]

80. The CoE mentioned that the CoE-Commissioner had sent a letter on 26 October 2016 to the Attorney General of Cyprus, concerning the protection of the human rights of unaccompanied migrant children. The Commissioner noted that guardianship and legal representation of unaccompanied migrant children was provided by the Social Welfare Services, which lacked the necessary expertise for providing proper legal advice. Legal assistance in these cases was requested from the Attorney General's Office, which, as the sole legal adviser of all government departments, also represented state services in court. The Commissioner stressed that this practice raised serious issues of independence and impartiality of legal assistance and representation, especially in cases where unaccompanied migrant children sought judicial review of decisions issued by state services such as the Asylum Service or the Refugee Reviewing Authority. The Commissioner welcomed the fact that there was also a possibility for these children to be represented before courts by the Commissioner for Children's Rights. However, the involvement of the Commissioner for Children's Rights in the legal representation of unaccompanied migrant children concerned only court proceedings, excluding non-judicial asylum proceedings. In addition, the decision whether or not to involve the Commissioner for Children's Rights in the representation of unaccompanied migrant children before courts was taken by the Social Welfare Services who retained a general discretionary power.[97]

81. EU-FRA noted that it had repeatedly highlighted the importance of forced return monitoring, but that by the end of 2017, Cyprus had no operational monitoring system in place.[98]

Stateless persons

82. The CoE mentioned that the CoE-Commissioner had called on Cyprus to prevent statelessness and improve migrants' access to citizenship.[99]

83. JS3 stated that Cyprus should implement a dedicated statelessness determination procedure.[100]

5. Specific regions or territories

84. JS3 stated that for people living on the northern part of the island, including Cypriot nationals, Cyprus did not investigate and/or report on human rights violations.[101]

85. ADF International recommended that Cyprus take steps to ensure the preservation of the cultural and religious heritage in the northern part of the island, and undertake effective steps to fully ensure all political, economic, social and cultural rights of its inhabitants. It also recommended that Cyprus ensure the preservation of the cultural and religious heritage, investigate cases of destruction of cultural property and bring perpetrators to justice.[102]

86. JS3 noted that a large group of children of Cypriot parents living in the north are denied their right to Cypriot nationality based on ethnicity. Only children who are of 100% Cypriot descent could acquire Cypriot nationality easily. It noted that children of one Turkish parent and one "original Cypriot" parent were denied Cypriot nationality upon application. Grandchildren who had one Turkish grandparent and three Cypriot grandparents could also not acquire Cypriot nationality. It stated that these people who apply for Cypriot nationality were not "denied" by the ministry of interior, their applications were simply "pending", some for 14 years. It stated that for some children in the northern part of the island there was a risk of statelessness.[103]

87. JS3 stated that people living in the north were excluded from free healthcare, including people in the possession of a Cypriot passport. Moreover, reports on healthcare in Cyprus only provided data about health care in the southern part of the island.[104]

88. JS3 stated that people living on the northern part of the island, including those who have Cypriot nationality, were not allowed to vote or otherwise politically participate in the Government of Cyprus.[105]

89. JS3 stated that anyone who is on the northern part of the island and who does not have a European identity document or visa, or a passport from certain allowed countries, could not cross to the southern part of the island. It stated that they would be stopped at the checkpoints by the Cypriot police. It noted that this included people who were born and raised on the northern part of the island, but also international students who were studying at northern universities and tourists from non-EU countries. An exception was made for children who have one parent who is a Cypriot national (who otherwise cannot acquire Cypriot nationality themselves), or people who are married to a Cypriot national. These people were allowed to cross. However, they were not allowed to travel from the southern part of the island to other countries.[106]

Notes

[1] The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org.

Civil society

Individual submissions:

ADF International	Alliance Defending Freedom, Geneva (Switzerland);
AMFWV	Association of Martyr's Families and War Veterans;
CTCI	Cyprus Turkish Chamber of Industry;
EUROMIL	European Organisation of Military Organisations (Belgium);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva (Switzerland);
ODVV	Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (Islamic Republic of Iran).

Joint submissions:

JS1	**Joint submission 1 submitted by**: Cyprus Refugee Council, Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies, CARITAS Cyprus, ACCEPT LGBT Cyprus;
JS2	**Joint submission 2 submitted by**: Cyprus Women's Lobby, Cyprus Refugee Council, CARITAS Cyprus, Association for the Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family (SPAVO), Cyprus Family Planning Association (CFPA), Hands Across the Divide (HAD), Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS), Socialist Women's Movement, Women of Europe – AIPFE, Women's Movement Protoporia, Business and Professional Women Cyprus (BPWC), Cyprus Gender Equality Observatory (PIK);
JS3	**Joint submission 3 submitted by**: Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, Eindhoven (the Netherlands), Maastricht University, Maastricht (the Netherlands).

Regional intergovernmental organization(s):

CoE	The Council of Europe, Strasbourg (France); Attachments: **CoE-ACFC** – Advisory Committee on the

	Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Fourth Opinion on Cyprus, March 2015 (ACFC/OP/IV(2015)001; **CoE-CM** – Committee of Ministers, Resolution CM/ResCMN(2016)8 on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities by Cyprus, May 2016; **CPT** – European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Executive Summary of the 2017 periodic visit report (CPT/Inf (2018) 16 – Part); **ECRI** – European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, ECRI Report on Cyprus (fifth monitoring cycle), June 2016.
EU-FRA	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (Austria);
OSCE-ODIHR	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe/Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (Poland).

[2] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.1-114.15 and 114.58.
[3] ODVV, para. 12.
[4] JS2, p. 9.
[5] JS1, p. 14, JS3, para. 45.
[6] ICAN, p. 1.
[7] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.16-114.24 and 114.54.
[8] JS1, pp. 13-14.
[9] CM/ResCMN(2016)8, p. 2.
[10] ADF International, para. 24.
[11] ECRI, pp. 9-10.
[12] ADF International, para. 26 (b).
[13] JS2, p. 3.
[14] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.25-114.29, 114.31-114.32, 114.40-114.43, 114.46-114.50, 114.75-114.76 and 114.105.
[15] CoE-ACFC, paras. 13-14.
[16] JS1, p. 16.
[17] ECRI, p. 9 and para.39. See also AMFWV, p.7, CTCI, p. 2.
[18] Ibid, p. 10.
[19] Ibid, pp. 9-10.
[20] Ibid, p. 10.
[21] CoE, p. 3.
[22] JS1, p. 12.
[23] ODVV, paras. 11 and 16.
[24] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.51-114.52.
[25] CPT, p. 1.
[26] Ibid.
[27] Ibid, p. 2.
[28] Ibid, pp. 2-3.
[29] Ibid, pp. 3-4.
[30] Ibid, p. 4.
[31] CoE, p. 3.
[32] JS1, p. 6.
[33] Ibid.
[34] Ibid, pp. 7-8.
[35] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, para. 114.94.
[36] CPT, p. 1.
[37] ECRI, para. 43.
[38] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.72-114.73.
[39] OSCE/ODIHR, p. 2.
[40] Ibid.
[41] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.60-114.70 and 114.93.
[42] CoE, p. 3.
[43] JS2 p. 8.
[44] Ibid.
[45] Ibid, p. 6.

[46] ECRI, p. 10. See also JS1, p. 13.
[47] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.37-114.39 and 114.95-114.98.
[48] EUROMIL, pp. 1-2.
[49] JS1, pp. 9 and 11.
[50] Ibid, p. 10.
[51] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, para. 114.100.
[52] ECRI, para. 101.
[53] JS1, p. 10.
[54] Ibid.
[55] Ibid.
[56] Ibid, p. 11.
[57] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, para. 114.99.
[58] CoE, pp. 3-4.
[59] ECRI, p. 9.
[60] EU-FRA, pp. 5-6.
[61] JS1, p. 11.
[62] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.77-114.78.
[63] JS2, p. 10.
[64] EU-FRA, p. 8.
[65] JS1, pp. 16-17.
[66] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, para. 114.30.
[67] ECRI, pp. 9-10.
[68] CM/ResCMN(2016)8, p. 2.
[69] Ibid.
[70] Ibid.
[71] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.33-114.36, 114.55-114.57, 114.59 and 114.74.
[72] JS2, p.1
[73] Ibid.
[74] Ibid, pp. 1-2.
[75] Ibid, p. 1.
[76] Ibid, p. 4.
[77] Ibid, p. 6.
[78] Ibid, p. 4.
[79] Ibid, p. 5.
[80] Ibid, p. 9.
[81] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, para. 114.71.
[82] JS2, p. 9.
[83] EU-FRA, p. 6.
[84] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.79-114.82.
[85] ODVV, para. 13.
[86] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.44-114.45.
[87] CM/ResCMN(2016)8, p. 1.
[88] Ibid., p. 2.
[89] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/26/14, paras. 114.53, 114.83-114.92 and 114.101-114.104.
[90] CoE, p. 3.
[91] JS1, pp. 3 and 5.
[92] Ibid.
[93] CoE, p. 3.
[94] JS1, p. 5.
[95] JS2, p. 2.
[96] JS1, pp. 8-9.
[97] CoE, pp. 2-3. See also JS1, p. 4.
[98] EU-FRA, p. 4.
[99] CoE, p. 3.
[100] JS3, paras. 43 and 45.
[101] Ibid, para. 41.
[102] ADF International, para.26 (d) and (e).
[103] JS3, paras. 22-24.
[104] Ibid, para. 37.
[105] Ibid, para. 38.
[106] Ibid, paras. 39-40.